

ing questions when the court adjourned at 2 o'clock.

The letter, sprung at a critical moment by Mr. Smith, was, according to testimony, the handwriting of Mr. Lucas, the confidential clerk of Mr. Busby, and was signed by the latter, though witness said he had no recollection of having affixed his signature to it. He was sure it was his signature, however, and it was written by him. The document was written by Mr. Lucas, later on Mr. Smith produced letters from numerous creditors of Mr. Busby, acknowledging receipt of one alleged to have been written on June 28, 1896, by him (Busby), asking for an extension, and saying that arrangements had been made to get him out of his financial troubles.

His Memory Bad.

Mr. Busby did not seem to remember much about these letters, though he could not deny their genuineness.

Outside of Mr. Richmond H. Smith, cashier of the Planters Bank, who testified briefly to some of the financial dealings of the parties through his books, Mr. Busby was the only witness during the day. He completed his testimony as chief at 2 o'clock, and Mr. Smith had him in tow all during the afternoon session. The story of the transactions between Busby and Dawson is a long one, and the former took a great deal of time to tell his side of it. He made a good impression all during the day, but the letter in the afternoon of course had a dampening effect. Mr. Royall, however, had fully recovered from the surprise it occasioned when the court adjourned, and in a little colloquy with Mr. Smith, just before that hour he said: "We'll bring out a great many things before we get through which you don't know of."

BROWN BAILED BY JUDGE WITT

Theron H. Brown is now out on bail. Judge Witt released him yesterday afternoon, upon application of counsel, Mr. Gilbert K. Pollock, on a \$5,000 bond, which was furnished by Messrs. Robert W. White, William Whittey and T. W. Wood.

In the Police Court examination was waived. The whole proceedings consumed not more than several minutes, and the application for bail, Brown was taken in charge by Detective Wren and escorted to the office of the chief of police. He looked wan and careworn, and braced himself with a milk today at the suggestion of a physician.

The case will come before the grand jury next week, and will probably be hurried through with, so that the end may be reached the sooner.

NEW BANKING FIRM.

Messrs. Branch, Cabell & Gray Form a Copartnership.

Before the end of the present month a new general banking and brokerage firm will be doing business on Main Street.

C. W. Branch, of the present firm of C. W. Branch and Company, doing business at No. 111 East Main Street; H. L. Cabell, the secretary of the Richmond Trust and Safe Deposit Company, corner Main and Tenth; and Howard S. Gray, a capitalist of New York, have formed a copartnership for the transaction in this city of a general banking and brokerage business. The terms of the agreement provide that the new firm shall open for business at No. 111 East Main Street on the 21st of March.

Mr. Branch and Mr. Gray, it is understood, will give their immediate attention to the business of the new firm.

Mr. Cabell will remain with the Richmond Trust and Safe Deposit Company until such time as the company shall be able to supply its place, and then give his entire attention to the business of the new concern.

Mr. Gray, the New York member of the concern, has large business connections in that city, and is a member of the New York Stock Exchange. Mr. Branch is a member of the New York Cotton Exchange, and also of the Chicago Board of Trade.

With its advantageous trade connections, its capital, and the high standing of the members, this firm, which will be known as Branch, Cabell and Company, will enter upon business with the confidence of the business public, and with every prospect of abundant success.

St. Clair—Harman.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) TAZEWELL, VA., March 4.—St. Clair, son of ex-Senator Alex. St. Clair, and Miss Nannie Harman, daughter of Mr. C. C. Harman, were married on Wednesday at the home of the bride, near Graham.

SCHOOL BOYS

here's a chance to display merit and win a fine suit of Berry clothes!



WHAT SCHOOL BOY OF RICHMOND OR MANCHESTER, UNDER 18, CAN WRITE THE BEST ESSAY ON THE PANAMA CANAL?

Hands up! Well, go ahead—using not over 200 words.

Bring the essay to our store not later than April 7th, with a full set of our newspaper ads, from March 8th to April 6th, cut from either daily paper. A committee of three prominent gentlemen will read and select the 6 best essays.

And we will pay for them as follows:

To the boy writing the best—a suit of clothes (his selection from our entire stock).

To the second best—a pair of fine shoes.

To the third—a spring hat.

To the fourth—a fine sweater.

To the fifth—a crisp dollar bill.

To the sixth—a school cap.

To the teacher whose pupil wins the first prize we will give a \$5.00 gold piece!

O-H-BERRY & CO.

MEN & BOYS OUTFITTERS.

RECOMMEND MANY CHANGES IN CITY

Important Recommendation of the Ordinance Committee.

The Committee on Charter, Ordinances and Reform transacted a great deal of important business last night, and proposed a number of changes in the city government. One was to pay councilmen \$5 for attendance upon each regular session of the main bodies, and \$25 for committee services. Another was to increase the salary of the city accountant from \$2,800 to \$2,400 per year.

The theatre exit ordinance was approved, and the ordinance to add ten cents to each delinquent water bill and to collect them quarterly, instead of monthly, was referred to a sub-committee for report. The committee recommended that the Water Committee have a clerk at \$200 per year.

The ordinance granting police powers to members of the fire and fire alarm departments was reported favorably, but that to increase the salary of the city electrician. The proposition to create the office of purchasing agent for the city was rejected, as was that to raise the salary of the assistant superintendent of street cleaning. The ordinance to require the Board of Police Commissioners to hold open sessions was tabled.

Bunch of Roses.

The pupils of the Daniels' School of Acting presented Miss Anne Blanke, a beautiful bouquet of roses at the finish of the second act of "A Little Outcast" last night at the Bijou.

This was a graceful acknowledgment of the pleasure she afforded the school on Wednesday afternoon, when she talked to the pupils for a short while.

ANSWER AND DEMURRER

Filed on Part of State in Connection With Appointment of Receiver.

COLLUSION IS CHARGED

Declares That the Road Has Earned Enough for Several Years to Pay Dividends.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) RALPHIGH, N. C., March 4.—Attorney-General Gilmer filed in the United States District Court this morning the answer and demurrer on the part of the State to the complaint of J. S. Finch, of New York, on which Judge J. B. McBoe receiver for the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad. It is about five columns and sets out that Finch is not a stockholder according to the records of the company at the time the application was made; that there was collusion between Finch and McBoe shown by the manner the stock was gotten, the hasty withdrawal of McBoe's bid to lease the road and the application for the receiver.

Contention is made that the court has no jurisdiction, for the reason that stock held by Finch is worth less than \$2,000, only \$1,775 at \$35 per share. That the road has been earning enough for several years to pay dividends, but the profits have by order of the directors been applied to improvements.

The answer avers that the road earned net \$75,225 in 1903 and similarly large amounts during the three years previous; that the improved conditions have already induced the tender of bids to lease the property that would average 5 per cent. on the stock, and that in all matters pertaining to the road the Governor has been actuated by a desire to obtain the best results for the State and private stockholders.

The hearing is to be March 10th, by Judges Simonton and Purnell.

WANT BETTER DEPOTS.

Manufacturers' Club of High Point, has applied to the Corporation Commission for a visitation by the commission to investigate the needs of the town for more adequate freight and passenger depots. The complaint is that the freight depot has been finished seven months but has, owing to litigation, not yet been opened. They complain, too, that the passenger depot is far from adequate to the needs of the place. No date for the investigation has yet been made.

The State Auditor issued warrants on the State treasury for the amounts apportioned to the various counties out of the second hundred thousand dollars to bring the school terms in those counties up to the four months minimum limit. There are fifty-seven counties. The other counties of the State having money of their own to run the schools four months or longer. The largest amount by any county is to Cleveland, which gets \$4,002. The total amount paid out is \$39,943.24.

The Secretary of State charters the following enterprises: Ezell & Myers Co., of Charlotte, with \$25,000 capital authorized and \$5,000 subscribed, by J. J. Ezell, J. S. and Rawlinson Myers. The company will deal in painters', builders' and decorators' materials.

The Bowers-White Lumber Co. of Scotland Neck, with \$10,000 capital.

The Thompson Lumber Co. of Stanley Creek, Gaston county, with \$25,000 capital authorized and \$9,000 subscribed by W. C. Thompson, E. L. Pegram and others. The company will do a general mercantile business.

The Murphy (N. C.) Furniture Co., with \$35,000 capital authorized and \$5,000 subscribed by R. L. Cooper and others to operate lumber mills and a furniture factory.

The Stovall Manufacturing Co., Stovall, Granville county. The capital is \$5,000 and the principal incorporators are B. B. Patrick and D. A. Burwell.

John Bruster Captured.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) WARM SPRINGS, VA., March 4.—John Bruster, white, was placed in jail here this morning. Bruster is said to be the head of a notorious gang, known as the Jesse James gang in this county. He has been dodging the officers for some time. He apparently is a mania for shooting. He shot and wounded John Perry September 29, 1903, and last week he shot a dog in Neck Walton's house and then proceeded to shoot a cow for Joe Rose. He is the first prisoner to be confined in the Bath county jail for nearly six months.

TAKES AWAY LIBERTIES

Mr. Davenport Says the Enactment of Eight-Hour Law Would Do So.

WILL NOT DIVULGE NAMES

The Spokesman of Anti-Boycott League Declined to State Members Names.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4.—The House Committee on Labor today continued its hearings on the eight-hour bill. Mr. Daniel Davenport, of Bridgeport, Conn., the executive agent of the American Anti-Boycott Association, and appearing specially for the Citizens' Industrial Association of America, made the principal argument against the bill. "The principal point that I desire to call the committee's attention to in this bill," said Mr. Davenport, "and the one which, to my mind, is the most obvious feature in it, is the fact that by its terms—and this is something that I am sure every one does not understand—it would rob the workman of the right to work more than eight hours a day if he wanted to; the right for which his fathers bled and died and the right which is to-day, as much as at any other time in the history of our government, the foundation rock of American freedom."

At the conclusion of his argument, Mr. Davenport was subjected to a running fire of cross-examination by the labor leaders present. Mr. O'Connell, president of the International Association of Machinists, taking the lead.

In reply to a question, Mr. Davenport said that in view of the fact that there was a great organization known as the American Federation of Labor, with headquarters in the city of Washington, with its twelve hundred thousand members, engaged in directing boycotting operations against different concerns, it was thought that if a man was asked to join the anti-boycott association, it would be better to assure him that his name would be kept in a safe and not exposed to the criminal measures of the American Federation of Labor. This, he said, was the reason that he felt in honor bound not to disclose the names of the members of the Anti-Boycott Association, without their express consent.

Some lively exchanges took place concerning the methods of the steel trust and the Standard Oil Company, and their treatment of their laborers, and Mr. Davenport replied that, to his mind, the steel trust was quite as essentially as the laborer, and was no more to be frowned upon or spoken ill of. He said that at least such things could not be considered a valid excuse for the taking away of the workman's day if he so desired, as this bill did. Mr. Davenport concluded with a brief argument against the constitutionality of the act as proposed. The committee adjourned until next Thursday.

JAPS LAND ARMY OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND

(Continued From First Page.)

Plakien Bay, on the east coast of Korea, has been confirmed.

The enrollment of volunteers is proceeding with enthusiasm at Vladivostok.

All Quiet Now.

(By Associated Press.) VLADIVOSTOK, March 4.—All is quiet here. No Japanese warships have been seen since February 25th, when ten ships were sighted on the horizon, but soon disappeared. The inhabitants continue to leave Vladivostok for Nikolai, Khabarovsk or Europe. There are no signs of spring. The ice is heavy and the cold is severe.

REPORTED BATTLE.

Russian Warships and a Japanese Vessel Said to Have Been Sunk.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, March 4.—On the strength of a statement made by a missionary, the Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Chronicle sends in a doubtful report that twenty-eight Japanese sailers have landed at Tong-Chang, saying that their vessel had sunk as a result of an engagement with Russian warships, which also went down. No Russians were saved, but two hundred Japanese were rescued by Chinese junk. This claim is reported to have occurred between Port Arthur and the Miao-Tao Islands.

Cruiser Sunk Near Chemulpo.

(By Associated Press.) ST. PETERSBURG, March 4.—The following dispatch, dated March 3d, has been received from Major-General Plung, commanding the Russian forces at Port Arthur: "All is quiet at Port Arthur and Yn Kow."

"According to information given by eyewitnesses, a Japanese cruiser, having three funnels, lies near Chemulpo, between islands, having recently sunk there."

A correspondent of the Daily Mail, cabling from Chefoo, under date of March 1st, said, among other things, that he had seen a Japanese cruiser of the Nyutaka type beached at the entrance of Nam-Yung Creek, which is about fifteen miles south of Chemulpo. Japanese naval vessels of the Nyutaka type have three funnels.

BOYCOTT OUR GOODS.

Moscow Merchants Alleged to Have Made This Threat. Article of Japs.

(By Associated Press.) PARIS, March 4.—In a dispatch from St. Petersburg, a correspondent of the Petit Times says: "A high officer of the general staff has pointed out to me how important a part article plays in the Japanese tactics, especially in the use of the English press to spread abroad news intended to drive and which is confirmed later by more or less fictitious operations. He suggested that the repeated attacks on Japan were apparently without purpose, and that the Japanese, standing at Posselt Bay, were merely intended to divert attention from the Yalu."

"The merchants of Moscow," the correspondent continues, "have decided to boycott all American goods until such



time as American hostility to Russia ceases."

Sent to Un-San.

(By Associated Press.) SEOUL, KOREA, March 4.—Sixty American marines have been sent to guard the premises of the American Mining Company at Un San, one hundred and twenty miles north of Ping Yang, which were reported February 27th to have been seized by Russian soldiers.

Solicitous About Provisions.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, March 5.—In a dispatch from Tokio, the correspondent of the Times says: "Russian troops were conveyed to Posselt Bay from Vladivostok and crossed the Tumen River, southward of Eng Kwin and Hiel Yang."

"The martial law regulations published at Vladivostok, February 9th, betray great solicitude with regard to provisions."

MORE TRANQUIL NOW.

Is Assured That There Will be No Interference on Europe's Part.

(By Associated Press.) ST. PETERSBURG, March 4.—There exists a high authority for the statement that Russia now has reason to feel more tranquil regarding the attitude of Great Britain.

The real reason of the visit to St. Petersburg of Count Benckendorff, Russian ambassador to Great Britain, while so essential to each his own office, the Far East was personally to assure his government of his belief that the suspicious harbored here concerning Japan's ally were ill-founded, and Great Britain, although standing by the obligations of the Anglo-Japanese treaty, would not move unless compelled to do so by the entrance into affairs in the Far East of a third power.

As the Associated Press is also credibly informed that the British and French Governments have reached a thorough understanding, by which they have pledged mutual non-interference, Russia now feels much more secure against European complications.

Czar to the King.

LONDON, March 4.—The Russian Ambassador Count Benckendorff, who returned from St. Petersburg Wednesday, today visited King Edward and presented him with an autograph letter from the Czar. This was in answer to a letter sent by the King, who on hearing that Count Benckendorff intended going to St. Petersburg sent for the ambassador and asked him to hand the Czar an autograph letter in which King Edward, in the most friendly terms, emphasized the King's complete neutrality during the war in the Far East, and said he trusted that the Czar would pay no attention to the press reports, intimating Great Britain was not neutral, nor to any unfriendly comments of the English papers, which the King regretted.

CUT HIS OPPONENT ELEVEN TIMES

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BRISTOL, VA., March 4.—Harvey Qualls and John Seligman met on East Street at 11 o'clock Wednesday night and proceeded to settle an old grudge. Qualls drew a knife and carved Seligman up in mince-meat style. When it was over eleven ugly gashes were found on Seligman's body, and one lung had been pierced by the knife blade. It is thought that Seligman's wounds will prove fatal. Qualls escaped from the Virginia side, where the cutting took place, and disappeared in Tennessee.

Virginia News in Brief.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NORFOLK, VA., March 4.—The Norfolk Railway and Light Company, owners of its property, today razed a dozen cottages alleged to be on its property.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA.—It is reported that the German cruiser Vindex will soon arrive here for repairs at the shipyard. Great Britain is expected to participate in ceremonies incident to launching of the Virginia.

LAWRENCEVILLE, VA.—The public school, which was closed a few weeks ago on account of smallpox, was reopened on the 1st of the month with fairly good attendance.

EMPIRIA, VA.—Mrs. T. C. Mills, of

LEE MAY CONTEST NOTTOWAY PRIMARY

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BLACKSTONE, VA., March 4.—The returns from all the precincts of the primary election held in this county for the office of Commonwealth's attorney on Tuesday and Wednesday, show that there were 860 votes polled in the county. Of these T. Freeman Epes received 464 and H. B. Lee 396, giving a majority for Epes of 88.

There is dissatisfaction among the supporters of Mr. Lee over the result, and they declare their intention to investigate the matter thoroughly. They claim that irregularities were practiced at this precinct. There are also counter charges of irregularities practiced by the Lee people in Crewe and Burkeville, both of which gave large majorities to Mr. Lee. This place gave a majority of 333 for Mr. Epes, Mr. Lee only receiving four votes here.

The fight was practically one end of the county against the other, the vote being almost solidly arrayed in this way. The Courthouse precinct, the center of the county, did not poll a large vote, giving a majority to Epes of 21. Of the six precincts Epes carried four and Lee two.

A warm time was also narrowly averted at the meeting of the County Committee on Thursday, called to accept the resignation of County Chairman J. M. Harris. It was evident that a bitter fight was to be made as to who should be the successor of Captain Harris, one faction declaring that if things did not go to suit them it would cause a split in the county. With the desire to prevent this, cooler heads got together and overruled upon Captain Harris to withdraw his resignation. This he did, and by a unanimous vote of the committee, he was asked to retain the chairmanship.

BANK CLEARINGS.

Richmond One of the Cities Whose Figures Show Increase.

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, March 4.—The following table, compiled by Bristaket, shows the bank clearings at a number of the principal cities for the week ending March 3d with the percentage of increase and decrease, as compared with the corresponding week last year. Sixty-three cities are included in the totals.

New York	\$1,124,495,898	decrease 25.3
Chicago	\$353,118,269	decrease 4.5
Boston	\$230,258,008	decrease 1.7
Philadelphia	\$111,974,965	decrease 6.9
St. Louis	\$55,857,218	decrease 8.0
Pittsburgh	\$39,216,922	decrease 24.4
San Francisco	\$30,449,992	decrease 13.3
Baltimore	\$23,238,098	decrease 25.2
Cincinnati	\$22,653,800	increase 1.1
Kansas City	\$23,632,407	increase 18.7
New Orleans	\$21,380,781	increase 30.9
Louisville	\$11,251,532	decrease 4.9
Memphis	\$5,125,069	increase 3.7
Richmond	\$3,920,493	increase 6.1
Washington	\$4,224,838	decrease 1.0
Savannah	\$3,056,830	decrease 17.8
Port Worth	\$2,825,254	decrease 40.3
Albany	\$3,099,452	increase 4.6
Nashville	\$2,520,209	increase 4
Norfolk	\$1,766,115	increase 6.3
Augusta	\$1,168,070	decrease 44.6
Birmingham	\$1,281,628	decrease 13.3
Knoxville	\$1,155,000	decrease 8.4
Little Rock	\$999,375	decrease 12.1
Macomb	\$1,061,000	increase 6.1
Chattanooga	\$886,011	increase 30.1
Jacksonville	\$1,583,012	increase 10.1
Houston	\$1,128,793	decrease 11.1
Charlotte	\$1,249,862	increase 11.0
Totals	United States \$1,997,087,292	decrease 18.2
Outside New York	\$854,221,304	decrease 5.6
Total Canada	\$44,105,997	decrease 8.1

JUDGE WATSON ON THE BENCH

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NOTTOWAY, C. H., VA., March 4.—The first Circuit Court under the new system ended here to-day, after a two days' session, with Judge Walter A. Watson presiding. There were several chancery decrees entered, but there were no important jury cases on docket. B. H. May was appointed justice of the peace for Haystack district; C. A. Smith was appointed deputy commissioner of the revenue for Blackstone district, or District No. 2; Charles F. Goodwyn, A. C. Eby, H. B. Lee and Maude Haskins were appointed commissioners in chancery of the Circuit Court.

At a meeting of the bar and officers of the court, with Judge C. F. Goodwyn as chairman and Charles F. Deane, secretary, held on the first day of the term, feeling and fitting resolutions were passed in regard to the death of the late and lamented Beverly A. Hancock, the former judge of this court, touching and appropriate remarks were made by Judge Walter A. Watson, Judge C. F. Goodwyn, Colonel James Mann and T. Freeman Epes, and the resolutions were ordered to be spread upon the records of the court.

This was Judge Watson's first court since his appointment, and he presided with great ease and dignity, and left the distinct impression that he is the right man in the right place.

A SENSATION IN EMPORIA

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) EMPORIA, VA., March 4.—Quite a sensation was created in Emporia to-day when Mr. and Mrs. George Hunt, who live at Litchcock Mills, nine miles distant, were arrested upon the charge of house burning.

Only a few days ago Mr. Hunt made application to a local fire insurance agent for insurance upon his furniture. The amount asked for was refused, but a five hundred dollar policy was issued him in the name of his wife. Five days after the policy was delivered Hunt's dwelling lay in ashes. Quiet investigation revealed the fact that Hunt and his wife did not have furniture exceeding the cost one hundred dollars. While no positive evidence has so far been obtained, the parties burning the property, circumstantial evidence was so strong that warrants were issued for their arrests, and both are now confined in the county jail awaiting investigation by the courts.

TRUST ACQUIRES THE CAMERONS

It is officially stated here that negotiations have been completed for the transfer to the British-American Tobacco Company of the export business of Alexander Cameron & Co., of this city, and William Cameron & Brother, of Petersburg, in the United States, and of the branch houses in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide, in Australia.

Details of the deal are meagre in the extreme. Mr. Alexander Cameron, of this city, confirmed the reported sale, but said that he could give out no particulars until the arrival here of his nephew, Mr. George Cameron, now en route to San Francisco from Australia. Mr. Cameron has been in Australia for the last month with officials of the British-American Tobacco Company, and is expected to arrive in San Francisco, Monday, March 10th.

The branch houses in Australia are known as the British-Australian Tobacco Company, in Melbourne and Sydney, and the Cameron Brothers & Co., of Adelaide.

"Cold Stop" FOR COLDS.

Nothing safer or better to use. We guarantee it and refund the amount paid if it fails.

Price 25c. Price AT ALL DRUGGISTS.

POLK MILLER DRUG CO., 834 E. MAIN STREET.

Girlhood

Is the foundation of Womanhood.

Girls that are delicate, girls that do not thrive on ordinary food, girls that are passing through critical periods, girls that need more and richer blood, should be given

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The Great Alternative and Tonic, Blood-and-Strength-making medicine. Only three small doses a day, and pleasant to take.

If there is biliousness or constipation, HOOD'S PILLS should be given also.

Accept no Substitutes for Hood's Sarsaparilla and Pills. No Substitutes act like them.

Always Remember the Full Name
Laxative Bromo Quinine
Cure a Cold in One Day, Grip in 2 Days

E. M. Johnson on every box 25c